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Narrative Summary

VENTRON/VELSICOL
Wood-Ridge Boro, Bergen Co., NJ

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Initial Conditions: This facility was the site of a chemical processing operation from before 1953 until its closure in 1974. The site is on 19 acres bordering Berry's Creek and the Hackensack Meadowlands. It is a densely populated and industrialized region and there is proven heavy-metal contamination leaving the site in the groundwater, surface water, and air; these releases threaten extensive wetlands and a very large population. There is also a significant direct contact hazard resulting from the dumping of wastes directly on the ground.

Current Status: The State of New Jersey filed suit in the spring of 1976 seeking a judgement of liability and funds to clean up the site. The Chancery Division found for the State on 8/27/79. Following appeal by the defendants, the Appellate Division found for the State on 12/9/81. The case is now before the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

Various remedial actions are currently under consideration with estimated costs expected to be at least 4 million dollars.

SDMS Document



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